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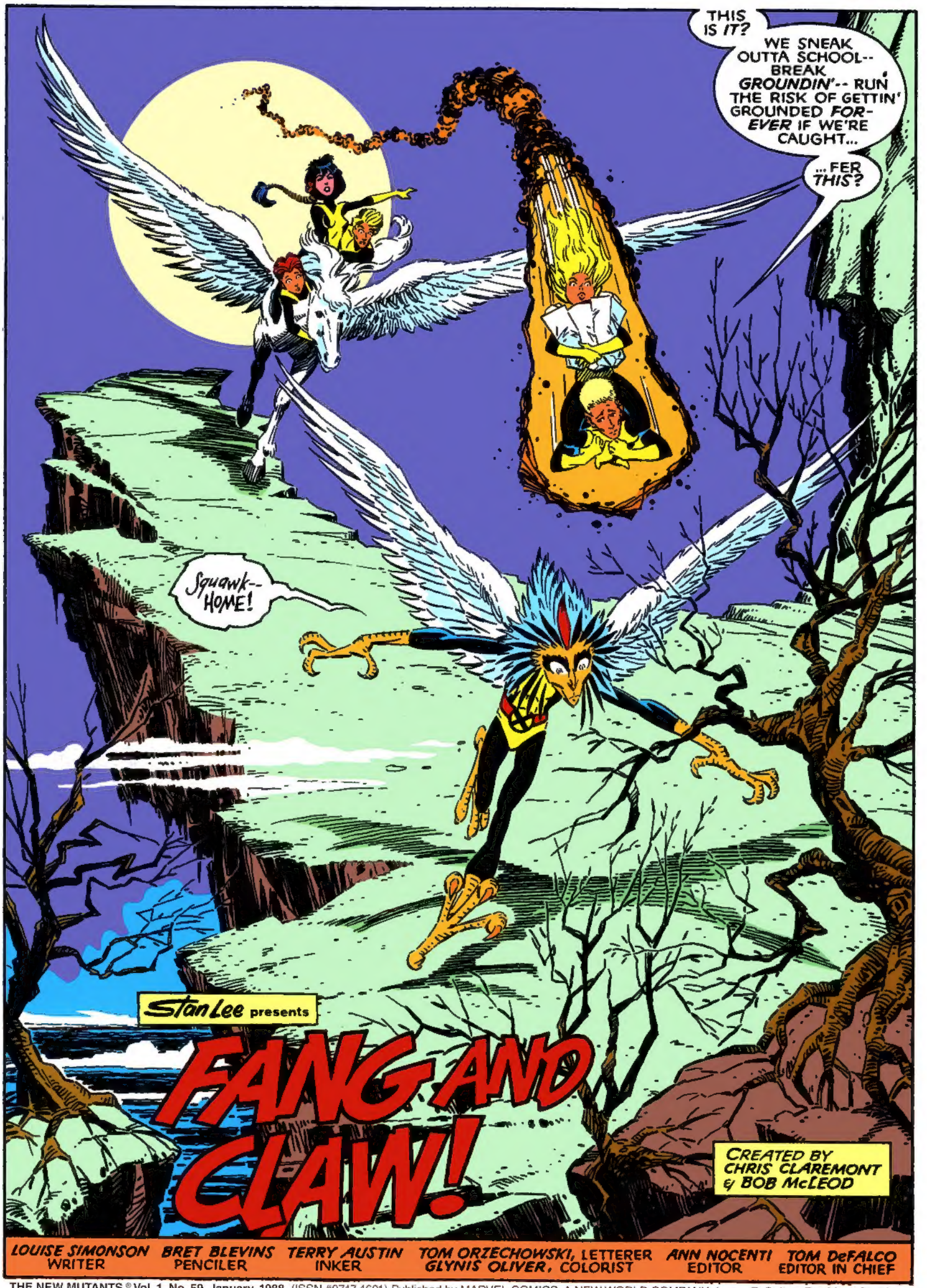
THE FALL OF THE MUTANTS

THE NEW MUTANTS®


THIS IS IT?
WE SNEAK OUTTA SCHOOL-- BREAK GROUNDIN'-- RUN THE RISK OF GETTIN' GROUNDED FOR-EVER IF WE'RE CAUGHT...
...FER THIS?
Squawk-- HOME!
Stan Lee presents
FANG AND CLAW!
CREATED BY CHRIS CLAREMONT & BOB McLEOD

LOUISE SIMONSON WRITER | BRET BLEVINS PENCILER | TERRY AUSTIN INKER | TOM ORZECHOWSKI, LETTERER GLYNIS OLIVER, COLORIST | ANN NOCENTI EDITOR | TOM DeFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

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IT'S NOTHIN' BUT A DESERTED PILE O' *ROCKS*.

NO, SAM! THERE *MUST* BE MORE.

BIRD-BRAIN SAID HIS FRIENDS WOULD *DIE* IN A *TESTING* IF WE DIDN'T COME, DIDN'T YOU, BIRD-BRAIN?

SQUAWK-*FRIENDS*?

SO WHERE *ARE* THEY, RAHNE? NOBODY'S *HERE*.

OR *HERE* EITHER, DANI! NO *LIGHTS*, NO *PEOPLE*. *NOTHING*.

Uh... ILLYANA...

I DON'T WANNA SCARE YOU OR ANYTHING, BUT IF I WERE YOU I'D TELE-PORT BACK HERE...

...*NOW!*

Oh... *WOW!* WOULD YA JUS' *LOOKIT* THOSE CRITTERS!

THEY'RE LIKE *BIRD-BRAIN*... SORTA *HUMAN* AN' SORTA *ANIMAL*.

I WONDER IF THEY *EVOLVED* THAT WAY... OR IF SOME-BODY *MADE* 'EM. I SAW THIS *MOVIE* ONCE...

FRI--awk--ENDS!

HA! MAYBE THEY'RE YOUR FRIENDS, BIRD-BRAIN, BUT I THINK THEY WANNA *EAT US*.

WHILE, 250 FEET BELOW...

LOT F! PHALANGES NICELY DEVELOPED.

BUT... Tsk! Tsk! PARIETAL BONE, FAR TOO PROMINANT. OVERDEVELOPED CEREBRUM.

BRAIN... TOO MUCH BRAIN!

Tsk-tsk! OCCIPITAL LOBE-- LOOK AT IT! A NIGHTMARE! HEADS FILLED WITH DREAMS, THEY'LL HAVE!

A CURSED BATCH-- MUCH LIKE THE LAST! TOO HUMAN BY HALF!

MEEES-TER?

Ah, BOLIVAR LITTLEMOUSE. YOU HAVE BROUGHT THE GLOBE.

CUTE! NOT YET A BABE! CAN IT EXHIBIT THE SAME DEFECTS AS MY WATER-BABY?

IT CAN! IT DOES! Oh, WOE! I'M LOATHE TO DESTROY THE LOT OF YOU... AND YET--!

NO NEED FOR HASTE, MY DEAR! TONIGHT'S TESTING WILL TELL THE TALE ABOUT LOT E...

...AND THEIR PERFORMANCE SHALL DECIDE YOUR FATE.

UNFAIR? UNFAIR, YOU SAY? NO ONE SAID CREATION WOULD BE FAIR!

YES, BUFO, WHAT IS IT?

MAS-- URP-- TER!

LOOK UrP! LOOK UrP! ALA- RURMP! ALA-RURMP!

OBSERVANT, BUFO! YOU SHALL HAVE AN EXTRA RATION OF FLIES.

HUMAN SERPENTS INVADE MY PARADISE! *COMMANDER HODGE* AND *THE RIGHT* HAVE LEARNED MY SECRET...

... HAVE COME AT LAST... *TOO SOON!* AND NEVER A CALL AHEAD TO WARN ME! WHERE IS THEIR RESPECT FOR SCIENCE?

ALERT

THEY SURE *ARE* AMAZING, SAM. I NEVER SAW *TEETH* LIKE THAT!

YOU'RE NOT *THE RIGHT!* YOU'RE *CHILDREN!* STRANGELY GARBED, BUT CHILDREN... AND THOSE *TEETH* SHALL MAKE A MEAL OF YOU!

DO IT, ANI-MATES! *KILL THE STRANGERS!* THAT IS THE *LAW!* MY *LAW!* Hee-hee!

SOOOO...? WHERE ARE THE TORTURED *SCREAMS?* THE GNASHING *FANGS?* THE SPURTING *BLOOD?*

WHY ARE THEY STILL *ALIVE?*

THERE! MY ERSTWHILE *BIRD-BOY* IS WITH THEM! HE HAS RETURNED... HAS SINNED *UNPARDONABLY...* LED *STRANGERS* INTO PARADISE!

I LABORED SO TO MAKE HIM! HE IS MY *MASTERPIECE!* WHERE IS HIS *GRATITUDE?*

Humph! PUT TOO MUCH OF *MYSELF* IN HIM, PERHAPS! I NEED *NEW BLOOD!*

WHO *ARE* THOSE CHILDREN, ANYWAY?

THIK-TOK-

THIK-THIK-TOK!

NEW MUTANTS: STUDENTS -- PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS.

DANIELLE MOONSTAR
MIRAGE
CREATES 3-D ILLUSIONS

SAMUEL GUTHRIE
CANNONBALL
FLIES. INVULNERABLE WHEN BLASTING.

RAHNE SINCLAIR
WOLFSBANE
SHAPE-SHIFTS TO WOLF.

ILLYANA RASPUTIN
MAGIK
TELEPORTS VIA OTHER DIMENSION.

DOUG
LA

ROBERTO DaCOSTA
SUNSPOT
CONVERTS SOLAR ENERGY TO STRENGTH

WARLOCK
TECHNO-ORGANIC ALIEN
SHAPE-SHIFTER

MAGNUS
MAGNETO
MASTER OF MAGNETISM
SCHOOL'S HEADMASTER

MUTANTS!

THE RIGHT IS USEFUL, AT LAST! A FINE *DATA-BASE*. A PITY *THREE* ARE MISSING! Ah, WELL, *FIVE* WILL HAVE TO DO!

BUT FIRST... A CALL TO *RIGHT HEAD-QUARTERS*. HODGE *MUST* BE KEPT AWAY!

Dr. ANIMUS, SPEAKING.

HEED THIS *WARNING!* PARADISE HAS BEEN INVADED BY VICIOUS *MUTANTS!*

DO *NOT*... *REPEAT*... DO *NOT* ENDANGER RIGHT SECURITY BY APPROACHING! I WILL INFORM YOU WHEN ALL IS CLEAR!

OVER AND *OUT!*

THAT SHOULD SCARE THEM OFF. NOW, *hee- hee*, TO IMPLEMENT MY *PLAN!*

I HAVE *NEW BLOOD*... AND AN EXAMPLE OF THE WAGES OF *REBELLION!* THIS BATCH IS OF NO FURTHER USE TO ME! *DESTROY IT!*

COME, *WARRIORS!* WE HAVE BUSINESS ON THE SURFACE!

CRASH!

THIS WILL BE A TESTING THE LIKE OF WHICH NO OTHER LOT HAS EXPERIENCED!

GO ON, DOUG. *TALK* TO THEM.

FIGURING OUT LANGUAGES *IS* YOUR POWER.

YEAH! TELL 'EM WE'RE *MUTANTS!* THAT *WE* WERE BORN DIFFERENT, TOO!

THAT *WE* HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL IN OUR GENETIC STRUCTURE THAT GIVES US POWERS. WE'RE *FRIENDS!*

HOW *CAN* I TALK TO THEM? ALL I'VE HEARD SO FAR IS A COUPLE OF SNARLS AND SOME GROWLS.

EVEN I CAN'T ANALYZE A LANGUAGE FROM *THAT* SAMPLE!

TRY *BIRD BRAIN'S* LANGUAGE. YOU CAN SPEAK SOME OF THAT.

OKAY, HERE GOES... *SqUEAK Squawk-Awk! PEEP!*

MAYBE *THEY* CAN'T SPEAK BIRD.

SHOULD I CHANCE PULLING AN IMAGE FROM THEIR MINDS TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY WANT MOST?

MAYBE YOU OUGHTTA TRY THE THING THEY *FEAR!*

NO, POOR THINGS. FIND OUT WHAT THEY *WANT!* GO ON, DANI! *DO IT!*

I *TOLD* YOU! *FOOD!*

WHEN WE FOUND BIRD-BRAIN, ALL *HE* WANTED WAS FOOD, TOO! *ALL* THESE ANIMAL PEOPLE WANT FOOD!

LIKE SOMEBODY'S KEEPING THEM HALF STARVED AND--

HEY--!

FRIENDS! HUNGER-arwk! French-FRIES-sawk! Chawk-AWK-late-SNAK-awk!

SO *THAT'S* WHY BIRD-BRAIN WANTED TO BRING McBURGERS!

NICE TRY, FELLA, BUT THAT WON'T DISTRACT THEM FOR LONG!

GIMME A BREAK, ILLYANA. THEY'RE *ANIMAL*-PEOPLE.

WANT ME TO 'PORT US HOME?

WE'RE *MUTANTS*. HOMO-*SUPERIOR*. THE NEXT STEP UP THE *EVOLUTION-ARY LADDER*. ALL THAT STUFF.

WE GOT *POWERS*! WHAT'VE WE GOT TA BE SCARED OF?

BACK-awkf! BACK-kawkff!

GRUMPHF! Growr-UMPHF!

HEY! KEEP HIM TALKING, BIRD-BRAIN! I'M FINALLY BEGINNING TO *GET* SOME OF IT!

Swawrk-umph-awk! cheek-AWK!

HE'S SAYING WE'RE FRIENDS, AND THEY'RE SAYING... IT TRANSLATES SOMETHING LIKE HE'S THE BIRD BOY.

GRO-WPH

CHIT-chit!

EPP!

SKRIK! SNAP!

HE ESCAPED. HE GAVE THEM HOPE. AND NOW HE'S BROUGHT MORE MEN!

MAN HOLDS THE WHIP! MAN HOLDS THE PROD! MAN TORTURES AND KILLS!

MEN'S CLOTHING-- THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT HIS NEW MUTANTS UNIFORM NOW-- FEATHERS AREN'T GOOD ENOUGH! NOR FUR. THEY'RE BEING SARCASTIC!

MEN ARE FALSE FRIENDS... AND SLAVES OF MEN. STRANGERS ARE ENEMIES! KILL ALL STRANGERS-- THAT IS THE LAW!

BIRD-BOY IS THE ENEMY! KILL HIM!

KILL HIM? AND US? ARE YE DAFT? GET AWAY FROM HIM, YOU ADDLED NINNIES!

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT BIRD-BRAIN BROUGHT US HERE, SO WE COULD SAVE YOU FROM THE MAN WITH THE WHIPS AND PRODS?

HE'S THE ENEMY!

AND NOW YOU'VE HURT YOUR FRIEND! YOU'RE AS BAD AS THAT MAN IS! YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED!

THAT'S IT! RAHNE'S TINY MIND HAS FINALLY SNAPPED! I'M GONNA PULL HER OUT BEFORE--

ILLYANA-- WAIT!

HEY, RAHNE, THEY SAY YOU'RE A LIKE-CREATURE! YOU'RE MAN BUT BEAST, TOO! YOU'RE LIKE ONE OF THEIR OWN.

SAID-awk! FRIEND!

MEANWHILE, IN UPSTATE NEW YORK...

PLEASURE EXCITEMENTHRILL! SELFRIENDBOBBY, WE ARE HOME!

I GUESS! IF THEY'LL TAKE US BACK! AFTER ALL... WE DID RUN AWAY!

PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS

MAGNETO'S THE HEAD-MASTER...! IT PROBABLY MADE HIM LOOK LIKE A JERK! MAYBE HE'S MAD AT US OR--

FRIENDBOBBY, SELF SUGGESTS THAT UP-COMING MIDTERMS INSPIRE MORE FEAR THAN MAGNETO!

YEAH... I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT WE WOULD BE BETTER OFF SNEAKING UP TO BED!

I BET MAGNETO'LL BE IN A BETTER MOOD TO WELCOME US BACK AFTER A FULL NIGHT'S REST!

SELFRIEND'S WISH IS SELF'S COMMAND!

WEEOOOWEEOOOWEEO

BLAST! THEY MUSTA CHANGED THE LOCK!

HALT! STOP WHERE YOU ARE--!

WHAM!

SALUTATIONS, HEADMASTER-*MAGNETO*SIR!

Uh... SURPRISE! WE'RE BACK!

ROBERTO! WARLOCK!

I'VE NEVER BEEN GLADDER TO SEE ANY-ONE IN MY *LIFE!*

WHERE *WERE* YOU? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHY DID YOU *RUN AWAY?*

OF ALL THE *IDIOT* STUNTS... DO YOU HAVE ANY CONCEPTION OF HOW *WORRIED* WE ALL WERE?

YOU HAVE MUCH TO ANSWER FOR, YOUNG-STERS! I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!

AND I *WARN* YOU! I'M TORN BETWEEN UNMITIGATED *JOY* AT YOUR RETURN...

...AND THE URGE TO STRANGLE YOU *BOTH!*

LOOK, SIR, WARLOCK AND ME CAN *EXPLAIN,* RIGHT, WARLOCK?

EXCLAMATION: *CERTAINLY!* AND WHILE FRIENDBOBBY *MAKES* REQUIRED EXPLANATION...

... SELF WILL GREET SELFOTHER-DEAR*FRIENDS NEW MUTANTS!*

FRIEN*DOUG!* FRIEN*DANI!* SELF IS *HOME!*

I'M SURPRISED THEY AREN'T DOWN HERE ALREADY. YOU MADE ENOUGH NOISE TO WAKE THE *DEAD!*

EXPLANATION URGENTLY REQUESTED REGARDING DIRE AND UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES! SELF IS HERE...

... BUT SELFRIENDS *NEW MUTANTS* ARE *GONE!*

WHILE HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY...

AAHOOOGA! AAHOOOGA!

SRRRR-ound!

TESS-t!

BAAA-OO!

TESS-T!

WHAT'S THAT WHISTLE?

WHERE'RE THEY GOING? WHAT'S GOING ON? IT'S LIKE THEY'RE HYPNOTIZED OR SOMETHING!

Oh, NO! LOOK! BIRD-BRAIN'S GOING, TOO!

BIRD-BRAIN! NO! STOP!!!

DOUG, WHAT'S HE SAYIN'? WHAT'S UP?

WHIST-eep-TLE! Squawk-COME! AWK-ANIMATOR-epp-peep-FOOD!

GREAT! THE TESTING BEGINS AT THE SOUND OF THE WHISTLE! THEY'RE TRAINED WITH FOOD TO OBEY.

GOOD GRIEF! LIKE PAVLOV'S DOG! WHAT'S THE TESTING ALL ABOUT? WHO TRAINED THEM, ANYWAY?

Squeep-AWK-ani-mator! Squek-TEST! Awk-epp-cheep!

HE SAYS A MAN CALLED THE ANIMATOR TRAINED THEM. THE TESTING IS TO SEE WHO'LL LIVE OR DIE.

HE SAYS HE WAS AFRAID OF THE TESTING. SO HE ESCAPED.

LEFT THE ISLAND. BECAUSE HE KNEW HE WOULDN'T SURVIVE THE MAZE.

WE MUST TELEPORT HIM BACK HOME! AWAY FROM THIS!

Awrk-NO! EEP-cheep-HOPE! Argh-ept-FRIENDS!

HE SAYS *NO!* *HE* GAVE THEM HOPE THAT THERE WAS ESCAPE! NOW HE HAS TO *PROVE* IT!

SAVE THE OTHERS. NOT JUST THE ONES WE SAW, *LITTLE* ONES, STILL TO BE TESTED.

BUT TO DO THAT, HE HAS TO SURVIVE THE *MAZE*... AND THEN STOP THE *ANIMATOR!*

THEN *I'M* GOING WITH HIM!

ME, TOO!

AWRIGHT! WE'LL *ALL* DO IT! WE'LL *SAVE* 'EM.

NO PROBLEM! THEN ILLYANA CAN TELEPORT THEM BACK TO THE SCHOOL WITH US!

YEAH! MAGNETO'S PROBABLY ALREADY NOTICED WE'RE GONE. SO WE'RE IN TROUBLE ALREADY!

SO WE MIGHT AS WELL HAVE SOMETHIN' TA *SHOW* FOR IT!

AND WE CAN'T LET LITTLE ANIMAL-KIDS DIE!

DIE *HOW?* SO FAR, I HAVEN'T SEEN *ANYBODY* DIE! 'CEPT NEARLY *US!*

NOT THAT IT OUGHTA BE A PROBLEM! WE *HAVE* POWERS!

YEAH! WE CAN HANDLE MOST *ANY* SITUATION!

WAIT THERE, BRIGHTWIND! WE'LL BE BACK IN PROBABLY 'BOUT AN HOUR!

A *MAZE,* FOR PETE'S SAKE! WINDING TUNNELS AND SCARY TRAPS AN' STUFF! HONESTLY...!

NO KIDDING! HOW ARCHAIC CAN YOU...?

...oh...

YA KNOW, GUYS, WE COULD USE SOME MORE *LIGHT!*

MAYBE THIS MAZE STUFF AIN'T AS DIPPY AS AH THOUGHT!

AHHH!

RUMBLE!

Awk- *DOUG!*

SNAP!

THIS MAY ACTUALLY BE *DANGEROUS!*

AAH!

HAWWWWK!!

WHAT WAS THAT?

NOTHING *NICE!*

WE BETTER CATCH UP WITH THE ANIMAL GUYS! BUT *BE CAREFUL!*

WHO KNOWS WHAT *OTHER* TRAPS--

OH. Oh... *NO!*

HE... *HE'S* WHAT SCREAMED! THE POOR, TORTURED *CREATURE.* GOD REST HIS SOUL!

Squaw- *WHAT?*

IT'S CALLED *PRAYING,* BIRD-BRAIN! PEOPLE DO IT FOR LOTS OF REASONS... BUT ONE IS TO HONOR THE SOULS OF THE *DEAD!*

SAD-awk! *FRIEND!*

SCREEEE!

OMIGOSH!

WHAT WAS THAT?

TROUBLE!

IT CAME FROM OVER THERE!

THIS MAZE IS NO JOKE!

YEAH! I'VE SEEN ENOUGH DEAD ANIMAL-PEOPLE!

WE GOTTA CATCH UP WITH THE OTHERS 'FORE IT'S TOO--

HEY! LOOK! THERE'S NOTHING HERE! IT'S A DEAD END!

SHWIPP!

SHWIPP!

SHWIPP!

You WISSSSSH!

LOOK! MAGIK'S SOUL-SWORD FLASHED HERE FROM LIMBO! I THOUGHT IT WAS STUCK THERE! THIS PLACE MUST BE DANGEROUS!

THOK!

I COULD 'PORT US HOME, SAM, MONSTERS AN' ALL! MAGNETO HELPED ME ONCE IN LIMBO! HE'S GOOD AGAINST MONSTERS!

GO CRAWLING HOME FOR HELP? NO WAY!

WE'RE HERE TO STOP THE BAD GUYS... AND HERE THEY ARE!

SQUAWK!

KRAK!

WATCH IT, GUYS! THERE'S *MORE* OF 'EM!

ILLYANA-- THE *GROUND!*

LOOK OUT!

IT'S *POISON...*

...GAS!

CLANG!

WOLFSBANE! BIRD-BRAIN!

NO! GET AWAY FROM THEM!

THOK!

YOUR MASTER-- THE ANIMATOR-- WANTS YOU TO GET AW--

EEEE!

YOUR MIRAGE SCARED THE REST OF 'EM, DANI, BUT THAT BAT-GUY'S PROB'LY BLIND!

DON'T WORRY! AH'LL SAVE--

CHOK!

WHAT TH' HECK--!

SMASH!

METAL NET! MAKES IT NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TA STEER!

CRAK.

GOTTA KEEP ON BLASTIN'! BURN MAH WAY THROUGH IT IF AH CAN!

THUD!

FRI-awk-END! Save-AWWK!

BIRD-BRAIN! NO! KEEP BACK! TH' NET'S HOT AS HECK--

THONK!

--AN' IT'S STILL NOT MELTIN'-- HEY!

EXCELLENT WORK, MY ANI-MATES! THESE MUTANTS UNDERESTIMATED US, DID THEY NOT?

THEY WON'T GET THE CHANCE AGAIN! Hee-hee!

GO, MY ANI-MATES CREATIONS, MY SYNTHETIC SOLDIERS... INTO THE MAZE.

BRING THOSE UNLUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE SURVIVED IT TO MY LABORATORY...

"...WHERE WE WILL *USE* THEM, WILL WE NOT, TO DEMONSTRATE THE WAGES OF REBELLION?!"

PRISONERS! PRISONERS! WHO'S GOT THE *PRISONERS!*

I! AYE!

LOT F

LOT G

AN *EYE* FOR AN EYE! THAT'S WHAT WE'LL HAVE!

THAT GUY'S A CARD-CARRYING *LUNATIC!*

AND WE'RE *MUTANTS.* WE HAVE *POWERS.*

AN' WE LET OUR-SELVES BE CAPTURED BY THAT COCONUT AND A BUNCH A' DUMB ANIMALS.

THEY ARE *NOT* DUMB, SAM GUTHRIE! AT LEAST, *BIRD-BRAIN* ISN'T DUMB AND NEITHER ARE HIS *FRIENDS.*

THEY JUST THINK DIFFERENTLY THAN PEOPLE DO. AND THEY WERE SMART ENOUGH TO CAPTURE *US!*

Masss-ter! Your ssslavesss...!

HeRRRe! -SNORT!- TRRR-aitoRRRs!

Ah! AND WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOUR-SELF, MY BIRD-BOY? YOU, OF *ALL* OF THEM--THE *ZENITH* OF MY CREATIONS!

YOU... IN YOUR FANCY *CLOTHES*... AND YOUR-- WHY... I SUPPOSE THEY'VE GIVEN YOU A *NAME?*

BIRD-awk-BRAIN!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

QUOTE OF MONTH:

"You're lucky I didn't disintegrate you — or turn you all to elephants."

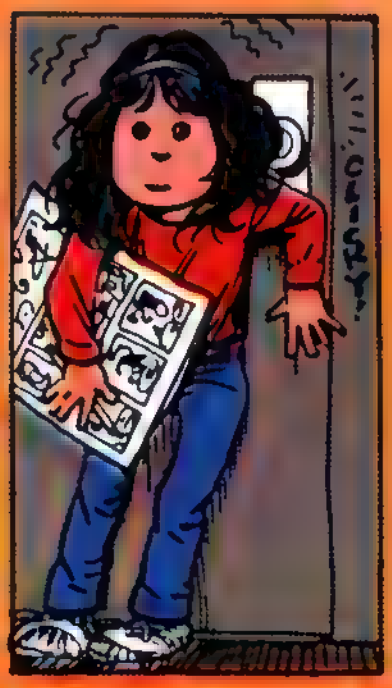
— Spellbinder, SPELLBOUND 4

ITEM: After an eight year tour of duty, one of Marvel's staunchest men in the editorial trenches has been granted an honorable discharge. We're talking about none other than Lethal *Larry Hama*, editor of such hard-hitting hits as THE NAM, CONAN THE BARBARIAN, SAVAGE SWORD, and KING CONAN, among others. Profiled on this page a mere few months ago, Larry is a man of many accomplishments in and outside the comics field. He began freelancing as an artist for Marvel back in 1974 on IRON FIST, signed on to the editorial staff in 1979 as the editor of CRAZY MAGAZINE, and when that mag had its last laugh, took on the Conan stable of books, eventually becoming Marvel's Senior Editor. Somewhere along the way, he found the time to originate and write the G.I. JOE comic, creating scores of characters for one of the best-selling comics published today. Larry is leaving his staff position to free up more time for writing. He will not only continue to script G.I. JOE and G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS, but he'll also be working on a number of *new* projects (for Marvel, naturally). Those of us who are still in the trenches wish Larry all the best. We will miss his maniacal laugh echoing down our corporate corridors.

ITEM: Stepping into the breach to edit the CONAN books is Melancholy *Michael Higgins*, who will be assisted by Larry's ex-aide-de-camp (not to be confused with L. Sprague de Camp) *Pat Redding*, and Michael's right hand man *Mike Rockwitz*. Meanwhile, filling the venerable Senior Editor position left vacant by Larry is the ever-redoubtable *Ralph Macchio*. Update your scorecards *now!*

ITEM: Not only does Marvel's maverick editorial staff move around a lot, but we're also quite an opinionated and unruly mob (as comicbook creative types tend to be). So when it came time to give the head of the mob, Marvel's spanking new Editor in Chief *Tom DeFalco* a birthday present, what do you think we chipped in and bought him? Yep, his very own personal *robot*. We figured the Two-Fisted Tom deserved *one* employee who'd always listen and obey him. (But really, Tom, did you have to teach it how to light your smelly cigars during editorial meetings?)

Pro File on: ANN NOCENTI



Editor on: *X-MEN, NEW MUTANTS, CLASSIC X-MEN and endless other X-Mutant projects.*
Marvel freelance credits (past): *SPIDER-WOMAN, BEAUTY & THE BEAST, LONGSHOT, STAR WARS, SPIDER-MAN Annuals, and BIZARRE ADVENTURES.*
Marvel freelance credits (present): *DAREDEVIL, SPIDER-MAN, INHUMANS Graphic Novel, the new LONGSHOT Mini-Series, and the SOMEPLACE STRANGE Graphic Novel.*
My hobbies are: *Acting, oil painting, piano, shooting pool, any & all sports, eavesdroping on New Yorkers, getting in my truck and driving anywhere.*
The single work of which I am most proud is: *Upcoming DAREDEVILs.*
My place of birth is: *Manhattan.*
My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: *Staying alive and sane.*
My oddest habit is: *Forgetting the basics, like eating & sleeping.*
If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: *Me.*
The reason I got into comics was: *Love & money.*
People who knew me in high school thought I was: *Not really there at all.*
The last good book I read was: *THE BONE PEOPLE.*
The last good movie I saw was: *MY LIFE AS A DOG.*
The biggest influences on my work include: *Hitchcock, The Symbolists, New York City.*
My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: *To draw a story.*
The worst part of my job is: *Telling talented new artists I have no work for them.*
When nobody's listening I like to: *Sing.*
The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: *You don't want to know any more!*

Checklist

- ☐ **THE NEW MUTANTS #61** — The New Mutants have seen the X-Men die! Written by LOUISE SIMONSON, penciled by BRET BLEVINS, and inked by TERRY AUSTIN
- ☐ **PSI FORCE #15** — Meet the New Universe's newest paranormals
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #36**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #30**
- ☐ **STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #16** — "Grudge Match" is written by PETER B. GILLIS, penciled by WHILCE PORTACIO, and inked by SCOTT WILLIAMS
- ☐ **CONAN THE KING #45**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #252** — Apocalypse's Horseman War takes on the masked assassin Bullet in this 48-page spectacular! "Ground Zero or The Day the Lights Went Out" written by ANN NOCENTI and penciled by JOHN ROMITA JR
- ☐ **SPELLBOUND #4** — A bi-weekly series.
- ☐ **TALES OF G.I. JOE #3**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #339** — X-Factor's foe Famine is on the loose! See the Captain's new shield! Written by MARK GRUENWALD, penciled by KIERON DWYER
- ☐ **SOLO AVENGERS #4** — Two avenging adventures for the price of one!
- ☐ **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #298**
- ☐ **STRANGE TALES #12** — Double the thrills! "Blue Skies" is written by TERRY AUSTIN, penciled by WHILCE PORTACIO, and inked by BOB WIACEK. Plus: Doctor Strange needs all the mystic power he can get — "Make Me Mightier Yet" is written by PETER B. GILLIS, penciled by DAN LAWLIS, and inked by RANDY EMBERLIN
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #56**
- ☐ **THE AVENGERS #289**
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #341**
- ☐ **JUSTICE #15**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #209** — Re-presenting the first appearance of the Punisher from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #129!
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #9** — Can even the Elders of the Universe destroy Galactus? And if they can, will the universe survive? Written by STEVE ENGLEHART, penciled by MARSHALL ROGERS, and inked by JOE RUBINSTEIN
- ☐ **THE UNCANNY X-MEN #227** — The surprising conclusion to the Fall of the Mutants saga
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #204** — Red Sonja accidentally releases a ravenous goblin and only Conan stands between his old comrade and certain death!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #69**
- ☐ **SPELLBOUND #5**
- ☐ **D.P.7 #17**
- ☐ **THE FANTASTIC FOUR #312**
- ☐ **IRON MAN #228**
- ☐ **THE 'NAM #16** — "Good for the Goose" is written by DOUG MURRAY, penciled by MIKE GOLDEN, and inked by JOHN BEATTY
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #136**
- ☐ **THE PUNISHER #7** — The Punisher forays into the world of toxic waste. Written by MIKE BARON with art by DAVID ROSS
- ☐ **THE STAR BRAND #11** — The true nature of the White Event is revealed! Written and penciled by JOHN BYRNE and inked by TOM PALMER
- ☐ **THOR #389**
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #26** — As the Fall of the Mutants saga reaches its climax, X-Factor relinquishes its mutant hunter pose and sets off in a bold new direction with a brand new look! Written by LOUISE SIMONSON with art by WALT SIMONSON
- ☐ **CLASSIC X-MEN #19** — With a new story written by CHRIS CLAREMONT with art by JOHN BOLTON
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS #38**
- ☐ **SLEDGE HAMMER! #2**

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #145**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #60**
- ☐ **MARVEL FANFARE #37**
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS COMICS MAGAZINE #6**
- ☐ **CONAN SAGA #10**
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN COMICS MAGAZINE #6**

MARVEL BOOKSHELF

- ☐ **MOEBIUS: THE LONG TOMORROW AND OTHER STORIES**
- ☐ **OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE X-MEN (X-MEN #97-105)**
- ☐ **MARVEL MASTERWORKS: THE X-MEN**
- ☐ **MARVEL MASTERWORKS: FANTASTIC FOUR**
- ☐ **MARVEL MASTERWORKS: SPIDER-MAN**
- ☐ **PERSONALS: THE MARVEL TRY-OUT CONTEST WINNERS**
- ☐ **OFFICIAL HANDBOOK TO THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #6**

SILENCE! WHO TAUGHT YOU TO SPEAK? WHO GAVE YOU *WORDS*? A *NAME*? A NAME, *INDEED!*

YOU... AN *ACCIDENT!* A *GENE-SPLICED* NOTHING. CUT IN *HALF*. SEWN *TOGETHER*. *DUAL* NATURES ETERNALLY *DUELING*...

...YOU *DARE* TO *SPEAK*? AND SPEAK A *NAME*?

YOU *HAVE NO NAME!*

TO EARN A NAME YOU MUST KNOW *EVIL*. TO *KNOW* EVIL -- IS TO BECOME A MAN.

THE *BIBLE*... THE *BIBLE* TELLS US SO... *hee-hee!* OF SERPENTS... *EVIL* SERPENTS... *HE* HAD A NAME, DIDN'T HE... AND *WORDS*, HE HAD!

AND APPLES... *LUSCIOUS* APPLES...! PERHAPS YOU'RE *HUNGRY*...?

NO! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL *WRONG!* YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT *GENESIS*, AREN'T YOU? AND ADAM AND EVE.

THEY ATE THE APPLE, BUT IT GAVE THEM KNOWLEDGE OF *GOOD* AND EVIL!

MY *CHURCH* SAYS IT'S SO PEOPLE WOULDN'T BE GOOD AUTOMATICALLY! IT MEANT THEY HAD TO *CHOOSE* TO BE!

RAHNE, AH DON'T THINK THE MAD SCIENTIST IS READY TA DEBATE THE FINE POINTS O' SCRIPTURAL INTERPRETATION!

CHOOSE? GOOD OR EVIL?

ANI-MATES SHOULD *NEVER* CHOOSE! *CHOICE* IS THE PREROGATIVE OF MEN! MAN ATE THE *APPLE*, DID HE NOT?

MY ANI-MATES EAT EACH *OTHER!* THEY *SHOULD* HAVE EATEN *YOU!*

THE MOON WAS FULL, AND A NEW LOT GROWN! I RELEASED THEM--TO ROAM THE SURFACE... TO LUMBER THROUGH THE *LABYRINTH!*

TO *SURVIVE*... IF THEY COULD... ANY *WAY* THEY COULD! TO EARN A *NAME*... TO GAIN *REALITY* AS SOMETHING MORE THAN ANIMAL.

BUT NEVER AS *MEN!* NO--*THAT* WAS NOT AN OPTION!

BUT BIRD-BRAIN *HAS* A NAME. HE'S *MUCH* MORE THAN AN ANIMAL! HE'S *PRACTICALLY* HUMAN--!

SILENCE HER!

THUK!

YOU CREATURES OF LOT E SURVIVED THE MAZE BUT THERE WILL BE NO *NAMES* TO REWARD YOU! NO RAGS TO HIDE YOUR SHAME!

YOU ALLOWED STRANGERS ON THE SURFACE! TRANS-GRESSED THE LAW OF *TERRITORIALITY!* TURNED ON YOUR *CREATOR!*

YOU *DISOBEYED!* YOU CHOSE--*CHOSE* TO DISOBEY!

AND THAT *CHOICE* WILL COST YOU YOUR *LIVES!*

IN YOUR EFFORT TO FREE YOUR FELLOWS, YOU *LED* THEM TO THEIR DEATHS! YOU *CHOSE* THEIR DEATHS!

THIS IS THE PRICE OF YOUR *REBELLION!* THIS IS JUST THE *BEGINNING!*

GOD-awk REST FRI-awk-END!

LOOK AT HIM! LOOK AT THEM *ALL!*

WE JUST WANTED TO HELP...! AND NOW... THEY'RE GONNA *DIE!* NOT JUST THE ONES IN THE MAZE! *ALL* OF THEM!

WE ACTED LIKE CONCEITED *SNOBS!* LIKE IT WAS SOME SORTA GAME... LIKE TENNIS 'R SOMETHING... LIKE JUST 'CAUSE WE HAD POWERS, WE COULDN'T *LOSE!*

ONLY WE *LOST,* ALL RIGHT! AN' THE STAKES WERE HIGHER THAN WE KNEW!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING... SAYING...

...WEARING?

RRIPPP

CLOTHES ARE FOR DECORATION-- FOR PRIDE, FOR SHAME-- FOR THOSE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF EVIL!

CLOTHES ARE NOT FOR YOU! CLOTHES MAKE A MAN! AND YOU ARE NOTHING BUT AN ANIMAL!

TAKE THESE MONSTERS AWAY... AND DESTROY THEM!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE WORST IS YET TO COME!

The Fall of the Mutants

Syl3nt Bob